Article 15 (5) of the Constitution inserted through the Constitution (93rd Amendment) Act, 2005, enables appropriate laws to be made for the advancement of the weaker sections in matters of admission to all educational institutions, including private unaided professional educational institutions, except minority institutions. Some of the States have enacted laws to regulate fee in educational institutions, including private unaided educational institutions. A proposal in this regard is under the consideration of the Government for a Central law to give effect to the Constitutional provision, under which differential fee can also be prescribed for the weaker sections.

Grants to universities in Tamil Nadu

613. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of grants/financial assistance provided to universities in Tamil Nadu during the last three years;

(b) whether any special assistance is being provided to universities categorized as 'rural universities'; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) A Statement furnished by the University Grants Commission (UGC) showing grants paid by the UGC to Universities in Tamil Nadu during the last three years *i.e.* 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06 under Plan and Non-Plan schemes is annexed (*See* below).

(b) and (c) According to the information furnished by the University Grants Commission (UGC), while the Commission does not provide any special assistance under the category of 'Rural Universities', it has a scheme for providing assistance to institutions in the backward areas. A University located in backward district can receive grants upto Rs. 70.00 lakhs for improving infrastructure. In Tamil Nadu, Gandhigram Rural Institute, which is an institution deemed to be University receives financial assistance from the UGC for development as well as maintenance requirements.

Statement

Grants paid by UGC to the universities in Tamil Nadu during last three years under Plan and non-plan schemes

(Rs. in Lakh)

Sl. No.	Name of University	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
1.	Alagappa Univ., Karaikudi	7.30	124.07	106.43
2.	Annamalai University, Annamalai Nagar	131.82	204.21	434.85
3.	Anna Univ., Chennai	672.40	358.37	413.44
4.	Avinash Instt. Of Home Sci. for Women's, Combatore	919.19	952.70	1081.77
5.	Bharthiar Univ., Coimbatore	236.03	164.34	149.66
6.	Bharthidesan Univ., Tiruchirapalli	242.09	173.71	127.81
7.	Gandhigram Rural Instt., Gandhigram	1036.81	1111.27	1199.89
8.	Madras Univ., Chennai	1351.72	1007.98	3474.44
9.	Madurai Kamraj Univ., Madurai	160.99	290.14	1153.59
10.	Mother Teresa Univ. for Women, Kodaikanal	117.16	17.34	35.22
11.	M. Sundarnar Univ., Tirunelvele	147.44	36.10	107.81
12.	National Instt. of Tech., Trichurapalli	0.00	6.83	0.00
13.	Periyar Univ., Salem	0.00	0.00	28.57
14.	Sh. Chandrasekharandra Saraswati V.V., Kancheepuram	26.01	60.50	61.52
15.	Sri Ramachandra Medical College and Research Instt.	7.75	0.00	2.80
16.	Shan Mugha Arts, Sci. Tech. and Research Acad., (Sastra), Thanjavur	2.34	0.00	0.00
17.	Tamil Univ., Thanjavur	120.23	25.99	88.02
18.	Tamilnadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore	0.00	16.52	1.01
19.	Thiruvalluvar Univ., Fort, Vellore	0.00	0.00	0.00
20.	Vellore Instt. of Tech. Vellore (T.N.)	0.00	0.00	0.00
	TOTAL:	5179.28	4550.07	8466.93